

TRAP/NEUTER/RETURN CAREGIVER INSTRUCTIONS

1. **THE APPOINTMENT DATE WILL ALWAYS BE ON A FRIDAY SO TRAP APPROPRIATELY.**
2. Place the traps at the location where you are feeding the cats.
3. Set the traps with the door open - **use a twist tie to secure the door in the open position**
4. The first day, put the food in front of the open door – move it further into the trap each day until the cat is going into the trap. This may take a few days.
Note: It is best to use a smelly, wet cat food or tuna as bait.
5. Once the cat is going into the trap you can put the food at the back of the trap and set the trigger mechanism to capture the cat.
Note: Please make sure that the door at the rear of the trap is secure so once the cat is in the trap it cannot escape.
6. The best time to try to capture the cats is early in the morning so you can take them directly to the spay/neuter clinic.
Note: When trapping in the morning use a very small amount of food to lure the cat into the trap as they will be going under anesthesia and should not have undigested food in their stomachs. Please tell the vet at approximately what time in the morning the cat ate.
7. If you trap at night you can put more bait food in the trap but make sure you do not feed the cat in the morning **as they cannot have undigested food in their stomach.**
Note: We strongly recommend trapping and/or feeding in the morning. Trapping and/or feeding at night can attract raccoons or other animals. If you trap a raccoon or other animal please release with caution. Use gloves and do not put your fingers in the cage as trapped animals are unpredictable. The traps that we provide have a release door at the rear of the trap for your convenience.
8. When the cat is trapped put a sheet or large towel over the trap to calm the cat. Make sure that the cat has sufficient air. Pick up the trap by the handles. Do not put your fingers in the trap and do not try to pet the cat.
Note: Cats will try to escape from the trap and it is normal for them to bloody their noses or paws on the wire cage – DO NOT RELEASE THE CAT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES AS YOU WILL NEVER CAPTURE THE CAT AGAIN.
9. Before putting the cat into your vehicle make sure that you put plastic over the carpet and/or seats as the cat might urinate, spray or throw up as it is frightened and agitated because it is in a trap.
Note: Plastic tablecloths, tarps or drop cloths work very well to protect the car.
10. Bring the cat to the City Hall parking lot on the designated day and Halifax Humane Society will transport the cats to the Redinger Clinic, 600 Mason Ave., Suite 150, Daytona Beach. **Halifax's Pick Up Time is 7:30 a.m. and will return the cats at approximately 4:00 p.m.**
11. Clinic will spay/neuter the cat, vaccinate for rabies and distemper, tip its ear and administer a pain shot. They will clean the trap and place the cat back in the trap or carrier after surgery.
NOTE: If you are taking the cats to the veterinarian in a carrier instead of a trap please make sure that the carrier is clean as the cat will be put back into the carrier after surgery.
VERY IMPORTANT: ONLY ONE CAT PER CARRIER – NO EXCEPTIONS.
12. The caregiver will pick up the cat later in the day (each clinic will give you an approximate time when the cat will be ready for pickup).
Note: DO NOT try to pet the cat or to remove it from the trap when you bring it home as you could be bitten or scratched as the cat will be stressed and unpredictable.
DO NOT let children touch the cat or try to play with it.
13. When you bring the cat home, place the cat trap on a surface that can be cleaned in case the cat defecates or urinates (garage, screened porch, etc). Place bricks or wooden blocks under the corners of the cage and put plastic or newspaper under the trap so the feces or urine will drop through the wire floor making it easier to keep clean.
Note: Make sure that the recovery location is not too hot in summer or too cold in winter and make sure that it is dry and out of the weather.
14. Male cats recover very quickly and can be ready for release the evening you bring them home or the next morning. If you keep them overnight make sure that they are in a sheltered area that is dry with a comfortable temperature
Note: Make sure that before you release the cat that you assess his condition to make sure

that he has recovered from the surgery without issue and is capable of being on his own.

15. Female cats need to be kept in a sheltered area that is dry with a comfortable temperature until her incision has time to heal; this can take several days.

You can feed her and give her water by pushing it under the rear door of the trap.

Note: Make sure that before you release the cat that you assess her condition to make sure that she has recovered from the surgery without issue and is capable of being on her own.

Note: Cats cannot regulate their body temperature after anesthesia, so please monitor them to make sure that they are not in distress or bleeding from their incisions or any other condition that is unusual during recovery after surgery.

17. **VERY IMPORTANT:** Make sure that you release the cats back into the area where you trapped them as cats will try go back to where they came from. Most of the time they do not make it.
RELOCATION DOES NOT WORK WITH FREE ROAMING OR FERAL CATS.

CITY OF DELTONA: PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITY

1. Deltona TNR only includes the spay or neuter, rabies and distemper shots, ear tipping and pain medication through the grant provided by Halifax Humane Society.
2. Deltona does NOT pay for any veterinary cost related to the TNT program.
3. Deltona supplies the traps. If the caregiver traps kittens or cats that need homes it their responsibility to foster and socialize them and find homes for them if they decide that they are not releasing the cats or kittens back to the colony.
NEVER GIVE A KITTEN OR CAT AWAY TO SOMEONE THAT YOU DO NOT KNOW!! ?
4. If a trap is stolen we need to know immediately so we can report the theft to Deltona Animal Services at 386-878-8701. The caregiver needs to provide us with details for the police report.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Deltona Animal Services: 386-878-8701

TNR Services: 386-878-8867